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requirement and submit that it is inappropriate.

Applicants note that the claims are all closely related and directed to a synchronous motor. Applicants further note that, although the various claims recite different components, this alone is an inadequate basis to render the species defined by the claims appropriate for restriction. Additionally, the overwhelming majority of the search field for the identified groups appear to be co-extensive. Although there may be specific search areas that are required for particular claims that are not required for the others, this alone is believed to be inadequate and thus inappropriate basis for requiring restriction.

Moreover, the restriction requirement set forth by the Examiner omits one of the two criteria for a proper restriction requirement now established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office policy. As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 803, “an appropriate explanation” must be set forth by the Examiner as to the existence of a “serious burden” if the restriction requirement were not required. By virtue of the Examiner’s requirement and since the claims of the various species are so closely related and are all directed to a synchronous motor, it is submitted that there is no serious burden on the Examiner in examining all these claims together. Furthermore, as noted above, the search for the claims includes a significant amount of overlap. Thus, additionally, no serious burden would come to bear on the Examiner.

For at least all of these reasons, and consistent with the office policy as set forth in

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M.P.E.P. § 803, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the position taken in the above-mentioned Official Action and withdraw the restriction requirement in the present application.

Further, regardless of the foregoing grounds for traversing the restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that at least species 1 through 4, as identified by the Examiner (corresponding to Figs. 1-5 and claims 1-4), are within a single group with claim 1 being generic to this group. In particular, claim 1 provides a recitation common to all of claims 1-4, including the slot intervals between slots adjacent to one end of the rotor magnetic poles being smaller than the slot intervals between slots adjacent to a center point of the rotor magnetic poles. Claims 2-4 merely include additional recitations. Thus claim 1 is generic to all of these claims.

Newly submitted claims 27-29 are directed to the group of claims with respect to which claim 1 is generic. Claim 27, which depends from claim 1 and incorporates a portion of claim 3, recites that the slots adjacent to the center point of the rotor magnetic poles have shorter radial lengths than the slots positioned adjacent to one end of the rotor magnetic poles. Claim 28, which likewise depends from claim 1 and incorporates another portion of claim 3, recites that the slots adjacent to one end of the rotor magnetic poles have a shorter distance to the rotor magnetic poles than the slots not positioned adjacent to one end of the rotor magnetic poles. Claim 29, which depends from claim 28 and substantially incorporates

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the subject matter of claim 4, recites that the distances between the slots and the rotor magnetic poles progressively increase from the slots positioned adjacent to one end of the rotor magnetic poles to the slots positioned adjacent to the center point of the rotor magnetic poles.

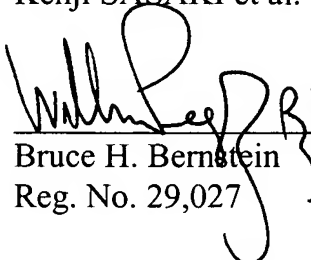
Therefore, in the event the Examiner rejects Applicants' grounds for traversing the restriction requirement, set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the restriction among species 1-4 (described in at least Figs. 1-5), and to consider newly submitted claims 27-29, along with generic claim 1 and claim 2, accordingly.

Nevertheless, in order to be fully responsive, Applicants have elected with traverse, the invention disclosed in species 2, Fig. 3, comprising claims 1 and 2, in the event that the Examiner chooses not to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding the present response or this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

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